

**MINUTES**  
**VERNON TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING**  
**TOWN HALL - 14 PARK PLACE - 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor**  
**VERNON, CONNECTICUT**

**RECEIVED**  
**VERNON TOWN CLERK**

**16 JUL 26 AM 8:55**

**July 19, 2016 - 7:30 PM**

Mayor Daniel Champagne called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM

**A) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

**B) ROLL CALL:**

**Present:** Council Members Pauline Schaefer, Michael Winkler, Brian Motola, Julie Clay, Kim Appleyard, Steve Wakefield, Laura Bush, Bill Campbell and Jim Tedford

**Absent:** Steve Peterson, Ann Letendre and Virginia Gingras

**Entered During Meeting:**

**Also Present:** Town Administrator John Ward, Recording Secretary Karen Daigle

**C.) CITIZEN'S FORUM**

Wendy Padula, 23 Eliot Drive, spoke on behalf of her neighbors and the crumbling foundation issue. She was looking for answers to questions from last council meeting, such as the mailing of letters to the residents concerning this problem and possible letter to the State of Connecticut from Vernon. The Mayor stated that a draft letter to the residents has been done and Vernon is looking to federal representatives for assistance.

Citizen's Forum closed at 7:37 PM

**F.) PRESENTATIONS**

A Proclamation was presented by Mayor Champagne to Kevin Kozak for his heroic effort in rescuing Alyanna Bukhari at Valley Falls earlier this summer.

7:40 PM Recess; 7:49 PM Reconvened

**D.) EXECUTIVE SESSION**

7:49 PM Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Bush, made the following motion to go into executive session:

THE TOWN COUNCIL, PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY GIVEN IN CONNECTICUT GENERAL STATUTES SECTION 1-200(2) HEREBY MOVES TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS STRATEGY AND NEGOTIATIONS WITH RESPECT TO THE COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWN OF VERNON AND THE FOLLOWING BARGAINING UNITS, *THE WATER POLLUTION CONTROL SUPERVISORS REPRESENTED BY LOCAL 818 OF COUNCIL 4, AFSCME, AFL-CIO; THE PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEES REPRESENTED BY LOCAL 818 OF COUNCIL 4, AFSCME, AFL-CIO; AND LOCAL 1471 OF COUNCIL 4 OF THE AMERICAN FEDERATION OF STATE, COUNTY AND MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES, AFL-CIO*, AND INVITES THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS TO ATTEND: JOHN D. WARD, TOWN ADMINISTRATOR, AND DAWN MASELEK, ASSISTANT TOWN ADMINISTRATOR.

Motion carried with 8 in favor and one abstention, Council Member Tedford. Council entered into Executive Session at 7:51 PM, less Council Member Tedford.

Executive Session ended at 8:09 PM

**E.) PUBLIC HEARING**

None

**F.) PRESENTATIONS (continued)**

Presentation to the Town Council by Mayor Daniel A. Champagne on various topics.

- There is a lot of activity around town, including the replacement of the building façade at Citizen Block-construction should be complete by mid-September; several buildings are being taken down at the Amerbelle Campus-Brooklyn Street will be closed to traffic during the work period; and new roofs are being placed on Skinner Road School, Northeast School and VCMS-construction will be complete prior to the start of the new school year
- Parks and Recreation camps are going strong with over 340 campers per week participating at Newhoca, Valley Falls, Henry Park, Center 375 and Kiddie Camp.
- As of last Friday, 2,155 lunches were served to children 18 and under between Henry Park, Talcott Park and Park West.
- The fireworks were a huge success, with the "fun zone" at Henry Park and games and food in the center of town.
- The Fitness Trail at Dart Hill Park is fully functional. Thank you to the Shea and Lalancette families for their very generous donation.
- The Council Chambers upgrade is about to begin. All evening meetings have been relocated to other locations. As of now, the August Town Council Meeting will remain in the Council Chambers.
- The Town of Vernon has maintained its excellent rating of Aa-2 by Moody's, primarily due to conservative budgeting.
- The Summer Carnival will run Wednesday through Saturday this week, July 20 – July 23.

**G.) ACTION ON CONSENT AGENDA**

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Bush, made a motion to approve the consent agenda items as presented # C1 – C4. Council Member Motola pulled C-2. Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Bush, made a motion to approve the consent agenda items #C1, C3 and C4. Motion carried unanimously.

- C 1. Request for the approval Tax Refunds for the prior year(s)** . (A copy of a memorandum from Terry Hjarne, Collector of Revenue, to John D. Ward, Town Administrator dated July 6, 2016 is included in the Council packet.)

**PROPOSED MOTION:**

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES EIGHT (8) PRIOR YEAR TAX REFUNDS FOR A TOTAL OF \$21,598.17, AS OUTLINED IN THE MEMORANDUM FROM TERRY HJARNE, COLLECTOR OF REVENUE TO JOHN D. WARD, TOWN ADMINISTRATOR DATED JULY 6, 2016.

- C 3. Request the Town Council approve Mayor Daniel A. Champagne's appointment of Eleanor (Ellie) K. Bellemore, (R), 14 Tracy Drive, Vernon, Connecticut as a regular member of the Permanent Municipal Building Committee, said appointment to commence on July 20, 2016 and expires June 30, 2019. (A copy of Ms. Bellemore's resume is included for Council review.)**

**PROPOSED MOTION**

PURSUANT TO THE VERNON TOWN CHARTER, CHAPTER VIII, SECTION 7, THE TOWN COUNCIL APPROVES THE MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE'S APPOINTMENT OF, ELEANOR K. BELLEMORE, (R), 14 TRACY DRIVE, VERNON, CONNECTICUT AS A REGULAR MEMBER OF THE PERMANENT MUNICIPAL BUILDING COMMITTEE, SAID TERM TO BEGIN JULY 20, 2016 AND EXPIRES ON JUNE 30, 2019.

- C 4. Request the Town Council approve Mayor Daniel A. Champagne's reappointment of William T. Tyler, Sr., (U) One Half Fox Hill Drive, Vernon, Connecticut as a regular member of the Senior Citizen's Advisory Committee, said term to commence on July 20, 2016 and expires June 30, 2019. (A copy of Mr. Tyler's resume is included for Council review.)**

**PROPOSED MOTION**

PURSUANT TO VERNON'S CHARTER CHAPTER XV, SECTION 3; EST. 03-02-1982, THE TOWN COUNCIL APPROVES MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE'S REAPPOINTMENT OF WILLIAM T. TYLER, SR., (U), ONE HALF FOX HILL DRIVE, VERNON, CONNECTICUT AS A REGULAR MEMBER OF THE SENIOR CITIZEN'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE, SAID TERM TO COMMENCE ON JULY 20, 2016 AND EXPIRES JUNE 30, 2019.

**H.) DISCUSSION OF PULLED CONSENT ITEMS**

- C 2. Request the Town Council approve budget amendments #54, #55, #56, #57 and #58 for fiscal year 2015-2016 as provided by Finance Officer James M. Luddecke on the budget amendment forms attached to this agenda. (See budget amendment forms with explanation attached to this agenda.)**

**PROPOSED MOTION**

RESOLVED, THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES BUDGET AMENDMENT REQUESTS #54, #55, #56, #57 and #58 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016 AS OUTLINED IN THE BUDGET AMENDMENT FORMS PROVIDED BY JAMES M. LUDDECKE, FINANCE OFFICER.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Bush, made a motion to approve consent agenda items #C-2. Finance Director, James Luddecke, answered questions. Discussion took place. Motion carried unanimously.

**I.) PENDING BUSINESS**  
None

**J.) NEW BUSINESS**

**1. Request the Town Council approve the State of Connecticut, Department of Transportation, State/Municipal Agreement to Readjust, Relocate and/or Remove Municipal Facilities on Highway Projects.** (See memorandum dated July 15, 2016 from John D. Ward, Town Administrator to Mayor Daniel A. Champagne and the Vernon Town Council relative to same.)

**PROPOSED MOTION**

BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE VERNON TOWN COUNCIL APPROVES THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION "**MASTER STATE/MUNICIPALITY AGREEMENT FOR THE READJUSTMENT, RELOCATION AND/OR REMOVAL OF MUNICIPAL FACILITIES ON HIGHWAY PROJECTS**", AND FURTHER AUTHORIZES THE HONORABLE DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE, MAYOR, TO SIGN THE AGREEMENT.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Bush, made a motion to approve the State of Connecticut State/Municipal Agreement to Readjust, Relocate and/or Remove Municipal Facilities on Highway Projects. Town Engineer, Dave Smith, spoke. Discussion took place. Motion carried unanimously.

**2. See below M.)**

**K.) INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES**

None

**L.) ACTION ON ORDINANCES PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED**

None

**M.) IDENTIFICATION/ADOPTION OF ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS.**

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Bush, made a motion to add an agenda item endorsing the Joint Intertown Capital Equipment request. Motion carried unanimously.

**2. Request the Town Council endorse the Joint Intertown Capital Equipment request for the purchase of a sewer line camera truck and authorize Mayor Daniel A. Champagne to sign any and all documents relative to same.** (See memorandum dated July 20, 2016 from John D. Ward, Town Administrator to Mayor Daniel A. Champagne and the Vernon Town Council relative to same.)

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION ONE:**

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY ENDORSES THE JOINT INTER-TOWN CAPITAL EQUIPMENT (ICE) PURCHASE INCENTIVE PROGRAM PROPOSAL FOR THE PURCHASE OF A SEWER LINE CAMERA TRUCK FOR THE W.P.C.A.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Bush, moved to adopt a resolution endorsing the Joint Inter-Town capital equipment (ICE) purchase incentive program proposal for the purchase of a sewer line camera truck for the W.P.C.A. Mayor Champagne spoke on the subject. Discussion took place. Motion carried unanimously.

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION TWO:**

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY AUTHORIZES MAYOR DANIEL A. CHAMPAGNE TO SIGN ANY NECESSARY AGREEMENTS AND TAKE ALL NECESSARY ACTIONS RELATED TO THIS PROPOSAL INCLUDING ENTERING INTO AN INTER-TOWN MUNICIPAL EQUIPMENT SHARING AGREEMENT WITH THE TOWNS OF ELLINGTON AND STAFFORD AND A BINDING AGREEMENT WITH THE OFFICE OF POLICY AND MANAGEMENT ACCORDING TO THE TERMS OF THE ICE GRANT PROGRAM.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Bush, moved to adopt a resolution to sign any necessary agreements and take all necessary actions related to the above proposal including entering into an inter-town municipal equipment sharing agreement with the towns of Ellington and Stafford and a binding agreement with the Office of Policy and Management according to the terms of the ICE Grant Program. Discussion took place. Motion carried unanimously.

**N.) DISCUSSION OF ADDITIONAL ITEMS AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**  
None

**O.) ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

THE TOWN COUNCIL WAIVES THE READING OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING OF JUNE 21, 2016 AND THAT MINUTES OF SAID MEETING BE APPROVED.

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Bush, made a motion to waive the reading of and approve the minutes of the June 21, 2016 regular Town Council meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

**P.) INFORMATIONAL ITEMS, PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, CORRESPONDENCE, REPORTS, ETC. NOT REQUIRING ACTION**

1. "Road Bond Update", memorandum dated July 8, 2016 from Robert J. Kleinhans, Director of Public Works to Mayor Daniel A. Champagne and John D. Ward, Town Administrator.

**Adjourn ( 8:39 PM)**

Council Member Wakefield, seconded by Council Member Bush, made a motion to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

Received:

Approved:

Respectfully Submitted,

Karen C. Daigle  
Recording Secretary